PANTS PATTERN ALTERATIONS FOR THE WHEEL CHAIR USER

Audrey Newton
1984

Commercial patterns are designed to fit a person in a standing position. A handicapped person who is confined to a wheelchair may need to alter commercial patterns for a more comfortable fit.

Pants that fit smoothly standing will drop down in the back when in a seated position, leaving an open area below the waist. Also these pants will show excess wrinkled material across the stomach.

To correct these problems, the pant front pattern can have a 2" fold approximately 5" below the waist to remove excess fabric. The pant back pattern can be slashed from center back to side seam and spread up to 2". This can be repeated with a second slash for up to 4" to give additional ease.

Another method for adding ease in the pant back is increasing height at center back. This is done by marking a point 4" above the center back point at waistline and angling from this point to the existing side waistline point.

An alteration can be made to an existing pair of pants by removing the waistband and inserting a 4" deep piece which tapers to nothing at side seams. A matching fabric should be used to cut this piece. Attach the bottom of the oblong piece to the top of pant back. Reattach the waistband to the top of the oblong piece.

Department of Textiles, Clothing & Design, Joan Laughlin Chairman
College of Home Economics, Hazel Anthony, Dean

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Alteration: Adding proper ease to pants back to cover waistline.
Removing excess material from pants across stomach area.

Procedure:

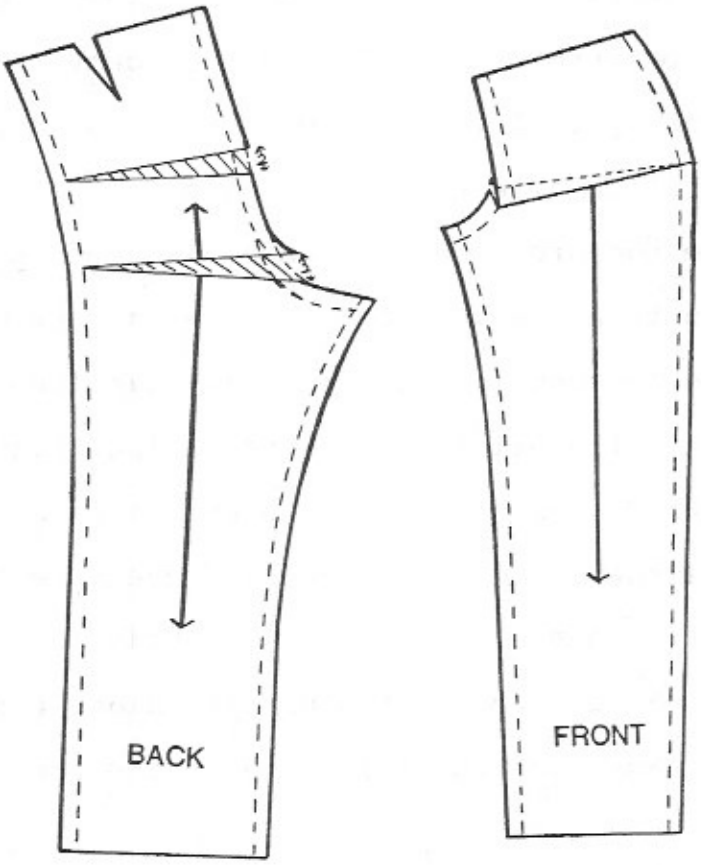
1. Cut pattern horizontally across hip line (about 9" below waist) from center front to side seamline.

2. Pivot to open up the slit 2".

3. For up to 4" alteration, a second horizontal cut can be made and each cut spread up to 2".

4. For pants front, at a point about 5" below the waist, make a fold 2" deep at center front, tapering to nothing at side seam.

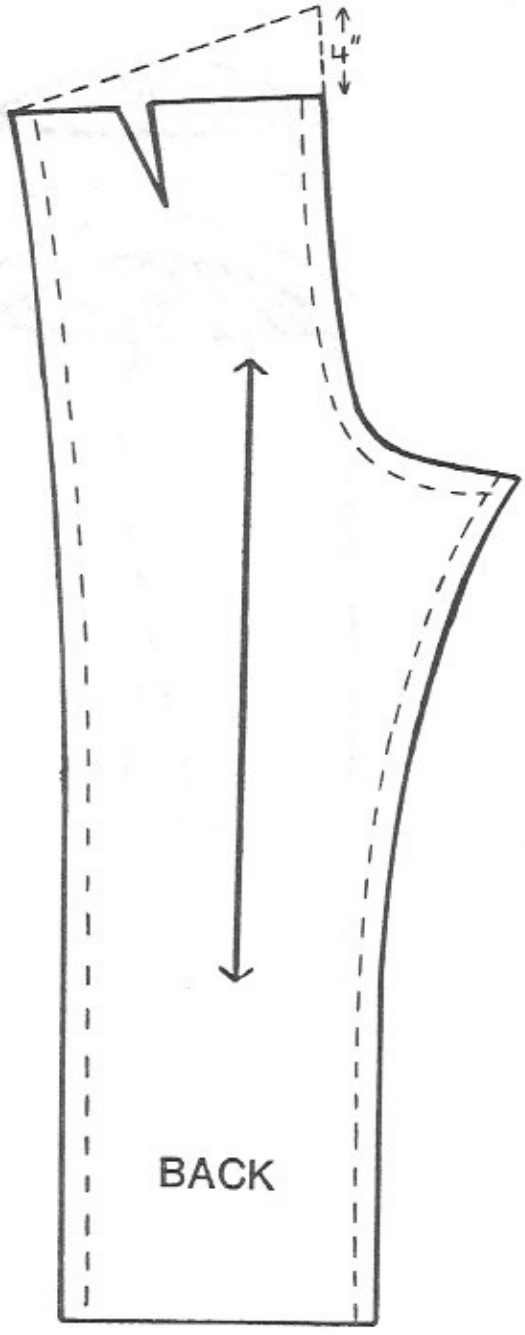
5. Smooth resulting angles and cutting lines as needed.



Alteration: Adding proper ease to pants back to cover waistline.

Procedure:

1. Mark a point 4" above center back waistline point.
2. Angle from this point to existing side waistline point.
3. Complete center back line.



Alteration: To add ease to back of existing pants.

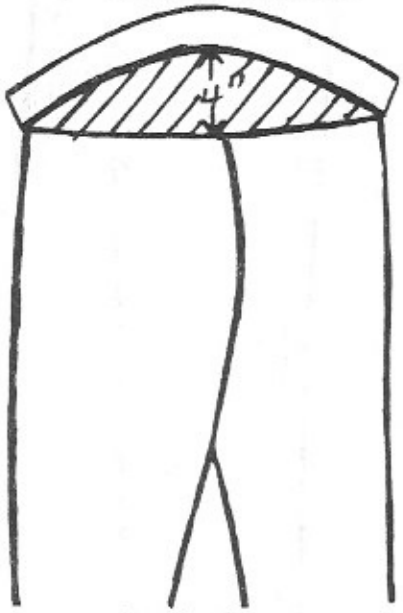
Procedure:

1. Remove waistline from existing pants.

2. Add a 4" oblong shaped piece of matching fabric to waistline of pants back.

3. Replace waistband to top of oblong piece at pants back.

4" oblong insert



Backview

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CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

Audrey Newton, Ph.D.
and
Barb Larson

Aids and Appliances for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 29th Edition, 1978-79, American Foundation for the Blind, 15 N. 16th Street, New York, NY 10011.
Catalog of products available for this specific need. Tags for identifying clothing can be ordered at no charge.

Ali Med, 138 Prince Street, Boston, MA 02113 (617)367-6555, Plastazoti shoes.

Amputee Shoe and Glove Exchange, 1635 Warwickshire Drive, Houston, TX 77077.
Information exchange to facilitate swaps of unneeded shoes, and gloves by amputees. Attempts to match amputees who need the opposite shoe and glove, who are about the same age, and who have reasonably similiar tastes. All mailing of shoes and gloves are between amputees matched. The exchange serves men, women, and children.

Betty Butler Inc., Box 51, Tenafly, NY 07670.
Lapwrap and dresses for people in wheelchairs.

Camp International Inc., Lisa Ahlbaum, Customer Service Department, Box 89, Jackson, MI 49204.
Line of prosthetics of mastecomy patients, clothing items (swimwear, lingerie).

Care-Sew-Much Designs, 432 Alpert, Fort Collins, CO 80521.

The Chick Orthopedic Co., 827-75th Avenue, Oakland, CA 94621.
Makes "custom boots" to fit over a lower extremity cast.

CLEO, Living Aids, 3957 Mayfield Road, Cleveland, OH 44121 (216) 382-9700.
Physical therapy equipment, occupational therapy equipment, rehabilitation equipment. A current copy of this extensive (275 page) catalog is in the file.

Clothing Research and Development Foundation, One Rockefeller Plaza, Suite 1912, New York, NY 10020.
Adaptive jeans.

Comfortably Yours, 52 West Hunter Ave, Maywood, NJ 07607 (201) 368-0400.
Aids for easier living, catalog: Spring 1984, 48 pages, over 250 items, some especially suited to handicapped persons.

Department of Textiles, Clothing & Design, Joan Laughlin, Chairman
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The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources provides information and educational programs to all people without regard to race, color, national origin, sex or handicap.

Damart, Inc., 2450 West Sibley Blvd., Posen, IL 69469.
Thermolactyl nderwear for men and women to provide special comfort in cold weather.

Danmar Products, Inc., 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.
Manufacturers of Wolverine Brand protective helmets designed exclusively for institutional use. Catalog available with detailed description, price list, and information for ordering.

The Diaper, PO Box 8581, MN, Minnesota 55409.
Mail order diapers for children.

Disabled Clothiers of California, Inc., 6950 21st Ave, Sacramento, CA 95820.
Catalog of clothing and other aids for disabled.

Do It with Pride, 1159 Poquonnick Road, Groton, CN 06340.
Self-help devices to aid in dressing and grooming. Catalog $2.50.

DYS Clothing Adjustment Service, 488 Madison Avenue, Calumet City, IL 60409.
Custom tailored clothing for handicapped men, women, and children.

Fashion-Able, Rocky Hill, NJ 08553.
Clothing for physically handicapped women and self-help items for independent living. Easy-on and easy-off clothing and lingerie. File catalog: 1980. Catalog: $.50

Fingerprint Patterns, 155 Belaire Ave, Louisville, KY 40206.
Catalog of patterns for the blind, made of heavy brown paper with raised lines to indicate grain, darts and other markings, and with instructions in Braille.

Fred Sammons, Inc. Be OK Self-help Aids, Box 32, Brookfield, IL 60513.
Many aids, including dressing, grooming, reachers for the handicapped. File catalog: 1982, 115 pages.

G. E. Miller, Inc., 484 South Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10705.
Catalog of dressing aids and daily living devices. File catalog: 1982, 220 pages.

Gerber Family Health Care, 445 State Street, Fremont, 49412.
"Dri-pride Incontinence Products" Adult and children.

Geri Fashions, 301 E. Illinois St., Newberg, OR 97132.
Garments designed for comfort and ease of dressing for women confined to wheelchairs.

Ger-Specials, Evelyn Reedy Industries, Kinderhook - 368, Dragon Lake Road, Coldwater, MI 49036.
Garments for older men and women, including dresses, dusters, and slips; men's slacks, shirts, gowns.

The Greenhouse, Six East 32nd St., New York, NY. MUA-2320.
Clothes especially designed for handicapped children. Girls 3-14 in shapes and sizes especially designed to fit over braces. Also have boys slacks.

Handee for You, 7674 Park Ave, Lowville, NY 13367.
Semi-custom-made clothing for women with physical handicaps and cut to measure kits for ready to sew women's clothing including sportswear, dresses and outerwear for nonambulatory and incontinents. File catalog: 1979. Catalog: $1.00.

Helen's Shoe Service, Route 4, Red Wing, MN 55066.
A shoe service for men and women who wear two different shoe sizes or need only one shoe. A file of information provides matching possibilities, and correspondence is carried on between those who have shoes available and those who need them to facilitate exchange. No catalog.

Help Yourself Aids, Box 192, Hinsdale, IL 60521.
Special devices for handicapped people.

Hill Brothers, 99 Ninth Street, Lynchburg, VA 24504.
Free catalog of hard to find ladies shoes. Sizes 2 1/2 to 14 AAAAA to EEE.

Independent Fashions, 16801 Halstead St., Sepulveda, CA 91343.
Dresses and capes for women in wheelchairs.

J. A. Preston Corporation, Gary Thal, Manager, Marketing Services, 71 Fifth Ave, New York, NY 10003.
Full line of equipment for health care and rehabilitation, including PT OT and special materials for children. File catalog: 1981-82, 240 pages.

J. C. Penney, J. C. Penney Circulation Department, Box 2056, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Cataglo: $2.00.
Catalog (general) support hose, incontinence products, mastectomy bras, and forms by Confidante.

Jobst Institute, Inc., Box 653, Toledo, OH 43694.
Jobst burn supports and elastic sleeves, and gauntlets for mastectomy patients with edema.

Karoll's Inc., Institution Division, 32 N. State St., Chicago, IL 60602.
Specialists in clothing for men, women, and children in mental hospitals, and for children in schools for the mentally retarded. In addition to illustrations, the catalog gives descriptions and a measurement chart to assure accuracy in fitting of garments. Incontinence items for children and adults are included in the catalog.

The King Size Co., 4115 King-Size Building, Brockton, MA 02402.
A chain of eighteen stores in the metropolitan areas in eastern and midwestern states, that specialize in all clothing items for large and tall men, and shoes up to size 16. The King Size co. also issues a mail order catalog.

Kwik Sew Pattern Co., Inc., 300 Sixth Avenue, North, Minneapolis, MN 55401.
Has patterns for knits and special designs for difficult to fit men and women.

Leinenweber, Inc., 69 West Washington Street, Chicago, IL 60602.
Custom tailored fashions for the wheelchair bound. Free catalog.

Lane Bryant, Inc., 1501 Broadway, New York, NY 10036.
Mail order catalog address is Lane Bryant, Inc., 2300 Southeaster Avenue, Box 7203, Indianapolis, IN 46272.
A national Chain of Women's specialty stores, more than 215 in number, which deal exclusively in contemporary fashions for the hard to fit woman and girl. Size ranges include: women's 38-56; half sizes 14 1/2-32 1/2; minum for women five feet two inches and under 12M-46M; Junior Plenty 15-27; Chubby Girls 8 1/2-16 1/2; Chubby Teens 11 1/2-17 1/2; and Tall Girls 10-22 for those five feet seven inches and taller and shoes up to size 13.

Lawson Hill Leather and Shoe Company, 580 Winter Street, Waltham, ME 02154.
Shoes for men and women sizes 2 1/2 to 13 AAAAA to EEE; Men's sizes 5 to 16 AAA to EEE. Free catalog.

Le Chic, PO Box 22552, Sacramento, CA 95882, will give suggestions upon request for clothing alterations for disabled individuals.

Levis' E.P.P. Dept. 8888, 6621 Geyer Springs Road, Little Rock, AR 72209.
Offers custom jeans for people with special needs.

Lu Kee Custom Shoes and Bootmaker, 65 Peking, Kowloon, Hong Kong.
Custom shoes for little people.

MCB's Tall Girl Shoes, 45 Grant Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94108.
Free catalog for mail-order shoes/boots for hard to find sizes.

M & M Health Care Apparel Co.,1541 60th St., Brooklyn, NY 11219 (800) 221-8929.
File catalog: 1984, Fashion Collection, 28 pages, 175 items, suitable for non-ambulatory and incontinent. Dresses, sportwear, sleepwear, lingerie, footwear, men's sportswear, underwear, sleepwear, footwear and accessories.

Men's and Ladies' Fashions for the Wheelchair Set, Leinweber, Inc., 69 West Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602.
Made to measure outer wear for women and men, proportioned for those confined to wheelchairs.

Montgomery Wards, 2825 East 14th Street, Oakland, California 94616.
Catalog (general) but offering some specialty products: mastectomy, large size garments, cotton hose, support hose, and hospital gowns. Catalog: $2.00.

Ms. Sylvia Stevens. 321-A Robertson Boulevard, Beverly Hills, CA 90211.
Manufactures nightgowns and lounging dresses for the mastectomy - Line is carried by Joyce Hart Saloon in New York.

Murray Salk, Inc., 119 Braintree Street, Boston, MA 02134.
Manufacturer of incontinence products.

The Natural Creation by Kay Caddel, Textiles Research Center, Box 4150, Lubbock, TX 79409.
Patterns for clothing for the physically handicapped and mentally retarded, produced through the Textiles Research Center, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, in cooperation with the Natural Fibers and Protein Commission of Texas.

National Odd Shoe Exchange, Jeanne L. Sallman, Owner-Director, Rural Route A, Indianola, IA 50125.
$15 Application Fee; $7.50 Annual Fee. A name-exchange only; does not handle the shoes themselves.

New Look Patient Apparel, Inc., 505 Pearl St., Buffalo, NY 14202.
Specialists in patient apparel that makes for easy dressing of wheelchair patients, rehabilitated and ambulatory patients, and the elderly, both men and women.

NuDay Creations at Suite 7029, 111 East Drake Road, Fort Collins, CO 80525 (303) 223-5178.
Products that deal with clothing and adaptations.

NuVogue Creations, 812 Huron Road, Cleveland, OH 44115.
Manufacturer of panties, maternity and surgical support panties; elastic stockings for men and women.

On The Rise Clothing for Special People With Special Needs, 2282 Four Oaks Grange Road, Eugene, OR 97405.

P T L Designs Inc. (Put Together With Love), Apparel Manufacturing for the Elderly and Physically Handicapped, Box 364, Stillwater, OK 74074 (405) 372-5544.
Apparel manufacturing firm catering to elderly and physically handicapped. Clothing for men, women, and children, including dresses, tops, pants, skirts, gowns, robes and accessories for non-ambulatory and incontinent. Swatch approval for small fee; discounts available. Custom service available. File catalog: Late 70's.

Ralco Manufacturing Company, 1537 E. McFadden Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705
"Ever-Safe" Protective Garments sold by mail.

Regenesis Catalog, Regenesis Boutique, 18 East 53rd St., New York, NY 10022.
Specialty shop for women who have had mastectomies. Carries lingerie, bathing suits, prostheses, accessories.

Roaman's, 425 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016. Mail order address is Roaman's, Saddle Brook, NJ 07662.
A chain of twenty-five women's clothing stores in the metropolitan areas in the eastern states, specializing in fashionable clothing in large sizes, up to size 60.

Sarah Soft Wear, Route 1, Red Wing, MN 55066.
Appliance covers for ostomates.

Sears Home Health Care Catalog, Home Health Care Products, 1633 Broadway, New York, NY 10010.
Mail order catalog for home health needs, surgical hose, mastectomy garments, incontinence supplies, hospital gowns. Source: Any Sears catalog store. File catalog: 1978.

Techni Flair: Designers and Manufacturers of Adaptive Clothing, Box 40, Cotter, AR 72626 (501) 435-6205.
Targeted to the institutionalized person; fabric color and design at manufacturer's discretion - 'masculine' or 'feminine' may be specified. Custom manufacture with one dozen minimum order. Line includes women's and girl's dresses, sportswear, slips, robes, sleepwear, loungewear, activewear and coats. Men and boy's sportwear, robes, sleepwear, active wear, outerwear.

Ventura Research and Rehabilitation for Handicapped, Inc., 35 Lawton Avenue, Danville, IN 46122.
Trail Blazer line of carrying aids for the mobility limited.

Vocational Guidance and Rehabilitation Services, 2239 E. 55th St., Cleveland, OH 44103 (216) 431-7800.
Wide variety of clothing for physically handicapped men, women, and children, including helmets for protection against falling. Catalog "People Helping People Clothing and Aids." Catalog: $1.00. Custom design and manufacture available. Fabric swatch approval. Discounts. File catalog: 1977. Catalog: $1.00.

Dr. and Mrs. R. E. Wainerdil, 1635 Warwick Shire Drive, Houston, Tx 77077.
Matches amputees needing half a pair of shoes.

Wheelchair Fashions, Inc., Box 99, South Windham, MA 04082.
Clothing for both men and women.